

SEP 28 1967

Approved For Release 2003/11/04 : CIA-RDP69B00369R000200240034-1

INDIA CHARGE ON CIA DENIED

Bowles Calls 'Infiltration'
Story A Fabrication

New Delhi, Sept. 27 (AP)—United States Ambassador Chester Bowles today issued an angry retort to a claim that CIA agents have infiltrated industrial areas of Bihar State and American missionaries are converting famine-plagued farmers under duress.

Chandra Shekhar Singh, the state's irrigation and power minister, was quoted yesterday as saying Central Intelligence Agency agents infiltrated a strategically important industrial complex in the garb of missionaries and research scholars.

The United News of India said Singh claimed a number of people reported to him that scores of drought and flood victims had been converted to Christianity on the promise they would receive relief.

He was quoted as saying children in mission schools were forced to say the United States had saved them from starvation by providing food to them and employment to their guardians.

"These are malicious fabrications calculated to undermine the spirit of cooperation between dedicated officials of the Government of India and the United States and various voluntary agencies," Bowles declared.